

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication network having at least one radio access network, a core network, and at least one terminal device,
 wherein said core network comprises at least one gateway device, and at least one network control device adapted to control said at least one gateway device by transmitting a control information to the gateway device,
 wherein the at least one gateway device is located within the core network,
 wherein said radio access network is directly connected to the gateway device via a first interface,
 wherein a second interface is located within the core network and is connected between the network control device and the gateway device of the core network, the control information being transmitted from the network control device to the gateway device via said second interface,
 wherein said telecommunication network is adapted to route user data directly, without being transmitted through the network control device, between said radio access network and said at least one gateway device via said first interface; and
 wherein the gateway device provides conversion between audio signals carried on telephone circuits and data packets carried over the Internet or other packet networks.

2. (Previously Presented) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said first interface is connected directly from said radio access network to said gateway device.

3. (Previously Presented) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said second interface is connected to said gateway device.

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5. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said user data comprises real-time data.

6. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication network according to claim 5, wherein said user data comprises at least one of speech, audio, ~~and/or~~ and video data.

7. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 6, wherein said user data is transmitted using the RTP.

8. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said second interface is adapted to use the ISUP protocol.

9. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said second interface is adapted to use the MGCP protocol.

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11. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said user data is routed via a packet network.

12. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 11, wherein said packet network is an ATM network.

13. (Original) a telecommunication network according the claim 11, wherein said packet network is an IP network.

14. (Previously Presented) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said control information is transmitted via a TDM network.

15. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said control information is transmitted via a packet network.

16. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 15, wherein said packet network is an ATM network.

17. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 15, wherein said packet network is an IP network.

18. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said telecommunication network is a UMTS network.

19. (Previously Presented) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said network control device is a Mobile Switching Center.

20. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said first interface is an Iu interface.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for routing user data via a radio access network to a gateway device of a core network, ~~and further~~ the core network having at least one network control device and a second interface that is located within the core network and is connected between the network control device and the gateway device of the core network, comprising the steps of:

controlling said gateway device by transmitting control information from the network device to said gateway device via a second interface; and

routing said user data directly, without being transmitted through the network control device, between said radio access network and said gateway device via a first interface

wherein said radio access network is directly connected to the gateway device via the first interface,

wherein the gateway device is located within the core network, and

wherein the gateway device provides conversion between audio signals carried on telephone circuits and data packets carried over the Internet or other packet networks.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 21, wherein said control information is supplied via said second interface to said radio access network, and subsequently the control information is supplied together with said user data, via said first interface, to said gateway device.

23. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 21, wherein said control information is supplied via a network control device.

24. (Original) A method according to claim 21, wherein the ISUP protocol is used in said second interface.

25. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 21, wherein the MGCP protocol is used in said second interface.

26. (Original) A method according to claim 21, wherein said first interface is an Iu interface.

27. (Currently Amended) A gateway device for use with a telecommunication network having at least one radio access network, and at least one terminal device,

wherein said gateway device is adapted to receive control information from ~~the core~~ a core network via a second interface that is located within the core network;

wherein the gateway device is located within the core network, and

wherein said gateway device of the core network is adapted to receive user data directly from said radio access network via a first interface without being transmitted through the core network,

wherein said radio access network is directly connected to the gateway device via the first interface, and

wherein the gateway device provides conversion between audio signals carried on telephone circuits and data packets carried over the Internet or other packet networks.

28. CANCEL.